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7. (Amended) Apparatus according to claim 6, wherein said means for controlling the speeds of the respective units is arranged to control the speed of each unit, with a controlled acceleration of said unit up to a speed exceeding the speed of the flow within said incoming track, said separation resulting in a distance between two consecutive units, inside said shifting unit.

*AB*

9. (Amended) Apparatus according to claim 6, wherein said incoming track is arranged for feeding units at a variable speed, while the shifting unit is arranged for a constant speed, said means for controlling the speeds of the respective units being arranged to control the shifting after a predetermined number of units.

Insert new claim 11, as follows:

11. (New) Apparatus for controlling units within a flow from at least one incoming feeder track into at least one outgoing feeder track, comprising at least one shifting unit for controlled shifting of said flow into one or more selectable paths of said outgoing feeder track, wherein said shifting unit is provided with means for controlling the speeds of the respective units by controlled acceleration of the respective units up to a speed exceeding the speed of the flow within said incoming feeder track, for separation of the units in the longitudinal direction of flow, said separation resulting in a distance between two consecutive units, inside said shifting unit, and enabling said controlled shifting.